

### LAKE LIGHTS TOLD GERMANS PLANS OF U. S.

News of the Americans' Arrival Flashed Across Geneva

BLACK LIST OF SPIES IN NEUTRAL COUNTRIES American and Allied Countries Watch Their Every Movement

ONE TRIP TO BORDER Apparently Fruitless Journey of Correspondent Has Important Sequel

At the beginning of the European war Carl W. Ackerman was a member of the United Press staff in Washington. Since then he has been in fourteen countries as a war correspondent and magazine writer. In February, 1915, he sailed on the first passenger ship to reach Liverpool after Von Tirpitz announced his submarine blockade of the British Isles. Until diplomatic relations between the United States and Germany were broken Mr. Ackerman was the Berlin correspondent of the United Press and traveled to all the battlefronts. After returning to the United States with Ambassador Gerard he wrote "Germany, The Next Republic" which was syndicated by the Evening Public Ledger. Last summer the writer was in Mexico for the Saturday Evening Post, and last winter he studied conditions in Germany, from his headquarters in Switzerland, for the same magazine. He returned to this country in June, after traveling through southern France and visiting the war headquarters on the western front.

By CARL W. ACKERMAN

By 5 o'clock we could tell that it was going to be a dark and, perchance, a rainy night. The clouds were dense and, although not drifting very low, they cut off the tops of the mountains on the French shore of Lake Geneva. About a thousand feet above the water, however, the atmosphere was clear and from the mountain-bound driveway at Oruchy, just below Lesancy, and some snow on the steep slopes opposite us. Evian and other French towns were plainly visible, and, with the low, distinct skyline, the mountains and the smooth lakes before us it appeared as if we were looking across a great amphitheatre. Sauntering along the wide promenade with Harry Scott Williams, an Allied Secret Service agent who had been ordered to Switzerland by his Government to watch the activities of enemy spies, we mingled with the crowd of foreigners who were out for their evening walk. Passing along among them, our ears, like sensitive wireless instruments, would pick up the sounds of all those languages which one may hear in a neutral European country today—French, German, English, Spanish, Greek, Serbian, etc. Wealthy Germans, with their new worldhounds (they are gradually discarding the dachshund), French in tanned officers and soldiers, a few Tommies, nursemaids with baby carriages, children dressed in gay colors, rolling hoops or throwing stones into the lake, were to be seen along the drive. In rowboats and sailing smacks were others basking in the luxuriant sunshine of a peaceful evening on the waters of a peaceful country.

"This should be a good night for signaling across the lake," my companion remarked. "Enjoying, as I was, the calm and the rest after a day's toil, my thoughts were wandering far from the men but his statement brought me to the stern realization of his business. I looked at him and then across the lake. I had heard of the Germans using light signals in Spain, but I did not think it possible from a belligerent country. We trekked along in silence. "I think we can catch that damn bocha tonight," he said after we had walked several hundred yards. "I'll get Lardney's car. Henri and Gus will be ready if I give the alarm and they will go up the mountains. Would you care to join us? It may make a good story if we land him. If not, you will have the ride."

Watched by the Enemy Not long after I gave my consent we were on the train bound for a village several miles away from our destination. We knew that we were watched, because the enemy watches every one in Switzerland and every one who has the remotest connection with the war, especially correspondents, because the Germans are suspicious of all writers who are not in their official capacities. When the train stopped at a small mountain town we were the only passengers to get off, although some baggage and milk cans were unloaded and the mail was handed to the postman. From the depot we walked along a narrow mountain path to one of the fine motor thoroughfares which had been built for the tourists long before there was any thought of a European war. The car had been ordered to wait some time before it arrived. I did not ask my guide where we were going, knowing that it is land long enough to know that it is land safe to tell any one anything and I feared he would not tell me, even if I were curious.

"We shall have dinner some place along the road here," Williams volunteered this pleasant information, "and about 10:30 the joy ride will begin. For several nights now our men have been seeing lights from the

### TO A MARTYR'S MOTHER

The following letter from a marine overseas to the mother of another marine, killed in action—a Philadelphian—was sent by the mother to Representative J. Hampton Moore to "demonstrate the spirit of the boys in the district you represent." The mother asked that Representative Moore call the attention of his colleagues in Congress to it. It is here reproduced in full because of its unusual appeal. The mother is Mrs. C. M. Spearing, of 1532 North Fifty-fourth street. The son, Walter Joseph Spearing, was a member of the Fifth Regiment, U. S. Marine Corps.

At the Front, June 26, 1918.

Dear Mrs. Spearing: There is grief in my heart and in the hearts of all my comrades for the great sorrow that this war has brought to you and to us. We all unite to express our heartfelt sympathy and condolence to the Mother and family of one who has fallen in a cause as imperishable as will be the names of those who have fallen to defend it.

Should there be anything my comrades and I can do to mitigate your grief and to allay your sorrow—some little keepsake of Walt as a marine, perhaps; but name it, dear lady, and it shall traverse the ocean to you.

Because you do not know me, please do not think it presumptuous for me to write. You are Walter's Mother—I was his inseparable friend and comrade; that makes us two kindred souls in common grief for our nearest and dearest. Then too, this letter fulfills a duty that I am bound by oath and will to perform. Many months ago, Walt and I promised each other, that should the "God of Battles" call to one, the other would console the sorrowing Mother. Now Walt has gone West to Home and to you forever, but his figure, his voice, his wonderful personality, will always be living truths to me. I, myself, should the great call come, will go gladly, confident of a reunion and with faith in the eternal truth of that for which I die.

Beneath the green in Balleau Woods, forever connected with the "Honor of the Marines," lies Walt with two comrades, dead on the "Field of Honor." Above their graves the stately pines sway in their grandeur, an imperishable monument. But greatest of all epitaphs is that engraved within the hearts of his comrades. "A man, than whom there was no peer in kindness, in understanding, in comradeship, beyond compare." We alone know what have been, had circumstances so willed it. Whatever befall, whatever sorrow fills us, one thing I swear to you, here hard by that lonely grave—the very paper that I write upon taken in a captured German dugout. I swear that Walt is well avenged, that he has not died in vain, for his spirit leads us on to ultimate victory. You are proud, I know, for you are the mother of a martyr—a martyr in a holy cause, Freedom and Liberty.

Dear lady, the very thought that you are in grief tears my heart. Do not sorrow. Death, after all, is not so terrible, and here—why here it is glorious.

Mother, in the name of the Twenty-third Company, in the name of the marines, I salute you and all my comrades salute you.

Devotedly,  
SOL SEGEL,  
Twenty-third Company, Fifth Regiment, United States Marines.

### FOUR MORE SHIPS QUIT WAYS HERE

Two Destroyers, Tanker and Wooden Cargo Carrier Launched

QUICK WORK AT CRAMPS

Four ships—a steel tanker, a wooden cargo carrier and two torpedo boat destroyers—were launched from Delaware River shipyards today.

The destroyers were launched at Cramp's shipyards within twenty-four minutes—one at 10:20, the other at 10:44.

Approximately 16,000 tons were added to America's merchant marine by the launching of the tanker and the cargo carrier. The former, the E. L. Dohney III, of 12,872 tons, left the yards at the New York Shipbuilding Corporation's plant, Camden, N. J., at 11 o'clock.

The cargo carrier, of 3500 tons, launched at the yards of the Traylor Shipbuilding Company, Cornwallis, at 12:18 this afternoon, was christened the Buhisan.

Miss Nell Walker, of Huntsville, Tex., a niece of S. W. Traylor, president of the Traylor company, was the sponsor.

"Every ship you launch is another Black," of the British Admiralty, in addressing the shipworkers who gathered about the ways before the launching. Lady Black also attended the launching.

Captain Evan Thomas Evans, foreman in charge of the construction of the Buhisan, was presented with a loving cup and a watch by the men who built it. Charles McClure, assistant foreman, was presented with a mahogany clock.

George N. Heavey, manager of industrial relations of the company, made the presentations.

The Buhisan is the third wooden ship launched in Pennsylvania all by the Traylor shipyard. It is 280 feet long, has a beam width of forty-five feet and a depth of forty-four feet. It is of the Ferris type. The keel was laid last December 20, but delay in lumber shipments deferred the launching.

The launching party consisted of Mrs. S. W. Traylor, Jr., of Cornwallis; Miss Julia Ramsey, of Allentown; Miss Louise Amster, Amstutz, Texas; Miss Kathryn McGinnis, Miss Elizabeth Ripley, San Antonio, Tex.; Mrs. A. Brunner, Trenton; R. K. Ribsam, Trenton, N. J.; Theodore Davis, Cornwallis; Fred Schaefer, Philadelphia and John Noble and Warren Traylor, both of Allentown. President Traylor was unable to attend because of illness.

Mrs. Dohney Sponsor Mrs. E. L. Dohney, Jr., of Washington, D. C., wife of Lieutenant Dohney, U. S. A., was sponsor of the E. L. Dohney III, which was built for the

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### I. W. W. CASE GOES TO JURY

Defendants' Attorney Causes Surprise by Not Making Speech

Chicago, Aug. 17.—The I. W. W. case, which has lasted more than three months, was given to the jury today.

### MEXICO ALTERS OIL TAX; AVERTS CRISIS WITH U. S.

Carranza Modifies Decree Imposing Excessive Levy on American-owned Properties

By the Associated Press Washington, Aug. 17. The threatened crisis in the relations of Mexico with the Entente Allies and the United States apparently has been averted by a modification of the new Mexican oil tax decree by President Carranza.

It was learned today that on August 12, Carranza, in effect, canceled provisions of the decree of July 31, under which undeveloped oil lands might be seized by the Mexican Government upon failure of their owners to make declarations and submit to what they regarded as excessive taxation.

### LOSSES OF 110TH PROBABLY HEAVY, MARCH ASSERTS

Bases Statement on Fact That Philadelphians Were in Furious Battle

1,450,000 MEN ABROAD

Chief of Staff Suggests General German Retirement Is Near

By the Associated Press Washington, Aug. 17. More than 1,450,000 American soldiers have been embarked from the United States, General March, chief of staff, said today. This includes men sent to Italy and Siberia as well as to France.

General March was talking to newspaper correspondents in his semi-weekly conference.

In conference with the Senate Military Affairs Committee he announced that the American army now under arms numbers slightly more than 3,000,000 men. Approximately 1,551,000 of these are in cantonments at home.

110th Losses Heavy Answering a question by the newspaper men, General March said the losses of the 110th Regiment (Philadelphia troops), the old First and Third N. G. (I. P. Regiments) of the Twenty-eighth Division probably were proportionate to the heavy fighting in which that division had been engaged. He gave no figures, but pointed out that the Twenty-eighth Division had held the American center during the crossing of the Duron and was again in line along the Vesle, where fierce sharp fighting had occurred.

As to the location of other divisions, General March said the Eighteenth Division (Pennsylvania and Virginia troops), was training with the British in Flanders; that the Eighty-second (Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee troops) was in line north of Toul where it arrived early in July. Reports do not show that the Eighty-second division, he said, has yet been engaged.

No Eastern Front Senators were informed by General March that the Russian situation is very bad because of the general comity, or whether it is a new air battle in which he has figured.

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### THREE MORE DEAD 2 SONS WOUNDED, ON CITY HERO LIST MOTHER GRIEVES

Mount Airy Officer and Enlisted Man Wounded in Action

Glad They're in Same Hospital, But Wishes Them Home

THREE ARE MISSING PROUD OF THEIR VALOR

Philadelphia Soldiers in Today's Death List

Corporal George W. Laird, 1233 South Forty-sixth street.

Private James C. Brawley, 1618 North Fifty-fourth street.

Private William C. Kluth, 1640 North Redfield street.

August 17, 1918.

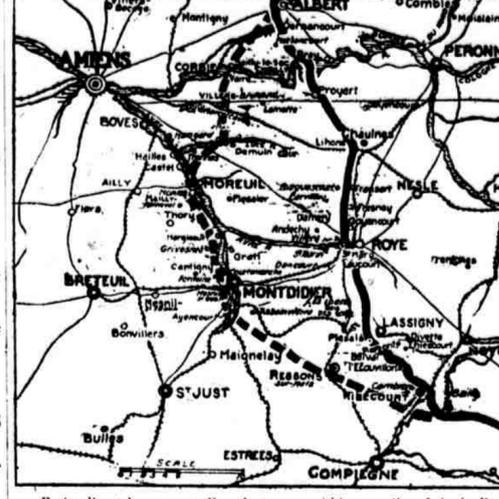
Three Philadelphians dead, two wounded and three missing—is the latest toll of the heavy fighting in France from this city, according to messages from the War Department today.

Captain Philip Mills, of New York, a brother-in-law of Mrs. Paul Desouk, Mills, of Woodcrest Lodge, St. David's, has also been killed, according to a report received by Mrs. Mills. Captain Mills was a member of the Philadelphia Club and made frequent business trips to this city.

Names of the heroic soldiers of this city who were killed, wounded or missing after Pennsylvania units, in the face of heavy German machine-gun fire, forced passage of the River Vesle on July 30 apparently are just being received here.

Local casualties reported within the last few days were nearly all sustained in the crossing of the stream and the occupation of Fismes and Flamette. Besides those reported dead today's

### LATEST ADVANCES BY ALLIES



Paris dispatches report French troops within a mile of both Roye and Lassigny, having captured Plessis, less than a mile southwest of Lassigny. Roads leading toward Peronne, Neale and Noyon are under fire. German retreat to a new "Hindenburg line" is forecast. Further northward British gains along the Somme in the Albert sector and further northward are reported.

### WHISKY TAX SET AT \$8 A GALLON

Ways and Means Committee Reaches Tentative Decision on Rate

HIGHER IF NECESSARY

By the United Press Washington, Aug. 17. A tax of \$8 a gallon on whiskey and other distilled liquors was tentatively decided upon by the House Ways and Means committee today. The present tax is \$3.20.

The new rate is subject to change if the committee should find itself short of the \$5,000,000,000 goal when the bill is ready to report.

Rates on other liquors are raised in proportion, but the committee is withholding formal announcement for two reasons. Absence of extremely high liquor rates would cause withdrawal of spirits from bond to escape taxation and force the committee into "interim legislation."

The present rates are only tentative and may be changed to get more revenue.

The committee today was working for final settlement of excess and war profits, the only other open feature of the bill except liquor taxes.

An 80 per cent war profits tax, as asked by the Treasury Department, will be enacted, with an exemption of 8 per cent for transportation corporations, 10 per cent for manufacturing, farming and general business and 12 per cent for oil operators, mining and other hazardous undertakings.

The excess profits tax virtually adopted by the committee gives an 8 per cent exemption in addition to a flat exemption of \$5000.

Profits between 8 and 20 per cent are taxed 40 per cent and profits above 20 per cent are taxed 60 per cent.

Many committee members consider these high and will fight their incorporation into the bill. They are a compromise on the excess profits rates which are presently in force.

The committee also placed a normal rate of 13 per cent on unearned incomes, consisting of income from preferred stock, royalties and annuities.

A half-year provision for publicity of income tax returns was decided upon, the names of income tax payers being posted in every county seat, but not the amount they pay.

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### COMMISSION 1095 ARTILLERY OFFICERS

CAMP ZACHARY TAYLOR, N. Y., Aug. 17.—Before a great gathering of soldiers and citizens, 1095 candidates received commissions as second lieutenants of field artillery at the Tri-graduating exercises of the field artillery central officers' training school here today.

Major General William Snow, chief of the artillery service of the United States army, as the principal speaker. The candidates came from virtually every State in the Union.

### TYPHOID KILLS FOUR MORE INTERNED GERMANS

ASHEVILLE, N. C., Aug. 17.—Typhoid epidemic among German soldiers at Hot Springs camp has caused four more deaths, making a total of fifteen out of 160 cases so far developed.

### U-BOAT STOPS BIG LINER; DOESN'T SINK HER

AN ATLANTIC PORT, Aug. 17.—The liner Nieu Amsterdam, of the Holland-America Line, which arrived here today, reported about sixty miles off the Norwegian coast a submarine appeared. The captain of the liner was questioned aboard the U-boat for two hours, and the commander of the undersea craft then permitted the vessel to continue its voyage.

### BASEBALL SCORES

DETROIT... 0  
ATH (1g)... 0  
Daus-Spencer; Watson-McAvey; umpires, McFarley-Govals.

### TEUTONS TAKE RUSSIAN PORT OF KRONSTADT

Forts Controlling Naval Approach to Petrograd Reported Seized

MOSCOW CONTROLLED BY ANTI-BOLSHEVIKI

Soviets Remove National Bank From Capital, London Hears

REDS SHELLING KAZAN

U. S. Consul General Poole Determines to Remain at Moscow

By the Associated Press Paris, Aug. 17.—(Havas Agency.)—Reports are in circulation in Finland that the Germans have seized the Russian naval port of Kronstadt, according to a Stockholm dispatch to La. Matin.

Kronstadt is twenty miles west of Petrograd at the eastern extremity of the Gulf of Finland. It was the principal fortress of Russia. Reports received through Germany early in the week were to the effect that Premier Lenin and War Minister Trotsky had fled to Kronstadt from Moscow. It was added that other departments of the Soviet Government also would go there. The fortress controls naval approach in Petrograd. Ice closes the harbor five months of the year.

By the Associated Press London, Aug. 17.—(By I. N. S.)—Moscow is now in the power of the social revolutionaries (the anti-Bolsheviks), said a Stockholm dispatch in the Times today.

The situation at Moscow is critical. The Soviet Government has removed the Russian National Bank from Moscow.

German troops are daily ordered to report to Petrograd, said the dispatch, and occupy parts of the southern coast from the capital to the northern coast.

### SOVIETS ARREST LEADING OPPONENTS

By the Associated Press Copenhagen, Aug. 17.—Forty of the most prominent representatives of the Russian Socialist party have been arrested by the Bolsheviks, say a telegram to the Social Democrats from Socialists in Russia. It is said it is feared the arrest will be the beginning of a series of arrests of leading opponents of the Bolsheviks.

Kazan, an important city in the Volga region, has been surrounded and is being bombarded by Soviet troops, according to a telegram from Moscow received by way of Berlin. The telegram states that a number of English and French have been placed under arrest at Volozha. Civilians between the ages of eighteen and forty are being mobilized by the Soviets for the construction of a bridge over the Volga.

Bolshevik troops, advancing toward Onega Bay, have occupied Kirillov, in the government of Novgorod, east of Petrograd. It is reported that violent fighting is proceeding on the southern front and in the direction of Tverkhov for the possession of the Don railway bridge.

Out of 1000 officers arrested at Moscow and Petrograd because of counter-revolutionary tendencies, 236 have been summarily shot, according to Moscow advices in the Kreuz Zeitung, of Berlin.

The semi-official news agency at Vienna says it has received a telegram from Moscow to the effect that the Soviet Government has seized several hundred-eight of American propaganda literature "purporting to explain America's policy and to assure Russia of America's friendship."

By the Associated Press Tokio, Aug. 13.—The Government today issued a statement announcing that under the agreement with China, in view of the danger threatening the border of Manchuria Japan was dispatching troops thence from Manchuria.

### RUSSIANS TREMBLE AT REDS' THREATS

Special Cable to Evening Public Ledger Copyright, 1918, by New York Times Co. Stockholm, Aug. 17.

A diplomat who has arrived here from Petrograd gives the following news concerning the situation in Russia.

"The population is very unnerved by many alarming rumors and awaits coming events almost with panic, as they do not know what new trials they may have to suffer. The Bolsheviks being at the end of their reign, cruelties hitherto unequalled are expected against the bourgeoisie. At the last sitting of the executive committee Lenin declared:

"We may be compelled to go away."

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### New 21-Year Class Men Must Register Aug. 24

All male persons who shall have reached their twenty-first birthday between June 5, 1918 and August 24, 1918, inclusive, must register on August 24, 1918.

These men should consult with local draft boards as to how and where they should register.